

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 639
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INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 JERUSALEM 913

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJ: UNIFIL FORCE DEPLOYMENT PLAN

1. UN SOURCE HAS CONFIDENTIALLY PROVIDED US COPY OF UNIFIL
FORCE DEPLOYMENT PLAN AS FOLLOWS (SECTION I SITUATION IS DRAFT
WHICH WAS NOT TRANSMITTED -- WE PROVIDE IT FOR INFO OF ADDRESSEES).

2. BEGIN QUOTE: (DRAFT) I. SITUATION

A. ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE (IDF) AREA
ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES (IDF) HAS CONTROLLED THE AREA
DEPICTED ON OVERLAY SINCE MARCH 19, 1978 EITHER BY A
PHYSICAL PRESENCE ON THE GROUND OR BY FIRE. IT IS ESTIMATED
THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATELY ONE DIVISION WITH SUPPORT TROOPS
ARMED WITH THE LATEST WEAPONS. ASSISTING THE IDF IN THEIR
AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (AOR) ARE THE
HEAVILY ISRAELI SUPPORTED CHRISTIAN DE FACTO FORCES LOCATED
IN ENCLAVES ADJACENT TO THE ARMISTICE DEMARCATION LINE. THE

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ONLY AREA NOT CONTROLLED BY THE IDF SOUTH AND EAST OF THE LITANI
RIVER IS THE TYRE SALIENT WHICH EXTENDS SOUTH AND EAST OF TYRE
TO INCLUDE THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS.

B.

B. LEBANESE/APKF AREA

THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON NOW "CONTROLS" LEBANON AREA NORTH OF THE LINE DEPICTED ON THE OVERLAY "ASSISTED" BY THE ARAB PEACE KEEPING FORCE (APKF). LEBANESE MILITARY STRENGTH NOW READY FOR DEPLOYMENT BY GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES IS REPORTED TO CONSIST OF THREE INFANTRY BATTALIONS, ONE ARTILLERY BATTALION AND TWO REINFORCED COMPANIES. THE APKF NUMBERS BETWEEN 25,000 TO 30,000 TROOPS, WITH THE LARGE MAJORITY OF THE TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY SYRIA. THIS AREA ALSO IS THE LOCATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS AND IN SOME CASES THE LOGISTICS BASE FOR THE DE FACTO FORCES (CHRISTIANS -- PHALANGISTS AND NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT; PLO -- ALL FACTIONS).

C. PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO)/LEFTIST (L)
AREA

ALL FACTIONS OF THE PLO/L OF VARIOUS SIZE ELEMENTS RANGING FROM SMALL GROUPS (2-3 MAN) TO COMPANY SIZE ARE WITHIN THIS AREA. THERE IS NO CENTRALIZED COMMAND AND CONTROL OF THESE ELEMENTS AND OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, THEY HAVE BEEN DIRECTED BY DIFFERENT AUTHORITIES WITH DIFFERENT AIMS. SOME OF THESE ELEMENTS/FACTIONS ARE SYMPATHETIC AND COOPERATIVE WITH THE UN TO INCLUDE UNIFIL AND ITS MISSION. OTHERS ARE NOT. FORCES ARE HEAVILY ARMED AND TO DATE, SOPHISTICATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS AND TANKS ARE THE ONLY WEAPONS SYSTEMS COMMON TO THE GROUND FORCES NOT OBSERVED IN THEIR POSSESSION.

\$. CHRISTIAN AREA
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ADJACENT TO THE ADL IN SOUTHERN LEBANON ARE TWO CHRISTIAN ENCLAVES COMPOSED OF POPULATION CENTERS, MAINLY AROUND THE VILLAGES OF MARJAYOUN AND RMAICH/AIN EBEL/ASLMA ECH CHAAB AREAS. THESE ENCLAVES HAVE BEEN AND ARE STILL FULLY SUPPORTED IN ALL RESPECTS, BOTH DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY, BY ISRAEL. CHRISTIAN FORCES ARE HEAVILY ARMED TO INCLUDE SHERMAN TANKS; EASTERN BLOC AND US MADE ARTILLERY; ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND LATEST INDIVIDUAL AND CREW SERVED WEAPONS. LOGISTICS AND COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT IS ALSO PROVIDED.

E. ISRAEL/LEBANON MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSION (ILMAC)
UNITED NATIONS TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION (UNTSO)
ILMAC OBSERVERS ARE STATIONED IN THE ISRAEL-LEBANON SECTOR ON THE LEBANESE SIDE OF THE ARMISTICE DEMARCATION LINE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSENSUS APPROVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, TO OBSERVE THE CEASE FIRE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND LEBANON CALLED FOR BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN 1949. THIS COMMISSION CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 46 (NUMBER VARIES) MILITARY OFFICERS AFROM 16 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND A NUMBER OF UN FIELD SERVICE OFFICERS PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. MILITARY OBSERVERS ARE POSITIONED IN FIVE OBSERVATION POSTS (OP)

AND AT NAQOURA OUTSTATION WITH HEADQUARTERS LOCATED IN
BEIRUT.
END QUOTE

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3. THE REMAINDER IS ACTUAL FULL TEXT OF FORCE DEPLOYMENT PLAN
AS TRANSMITTED TO UNNY BY UN HEADQUARTERS IN JERUSALEM:

BEGIN QUOTE

II. MISSION
IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 425 DATED
19 MARCH 1978 UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON
(UNIFIL) WILL:

A. DETERMINE COMPLIANCE THAT ISRAELI FORCES HAVE CEASED MILITARY
ACTION AGAINST LEBANESE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

B. CONFIRM THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES

C. RESTORE INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

D. ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON IN ENSURING THE RETURN
OF ITS EFFECTIVE AUTHORITY IN THE AREA.

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3. IN CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED, ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN ITSELF IN AN AREA OF OPERATIONS.

F. USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF FIGHTING AND TO ENSURE THAT ITS AREA OF OPERATION IS NOT UTILIZED FOR HOSTILE ACTIVITIES OF ANY KIND.

III. EXECUTION

A. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:

IN THIS OPERATION, UNIFIL WILL DEPLOY ITS FORCES IN A ZONE BETWEEN THE LITANI RIVER AND THE FORWARD DEFENDED LOCATIONS (FDL) OF THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE (IDF) WITH THE AIM OF FACILITATING, IN COOPERATION WITH THE LEBANESE ARMED FORCES (LAF) THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE IDF IN STAGES (PHASE LINES) AND OF PREVENTING ENTRY OF UNAUTHORIZED ARMED PERSONNEL INTO ITS AREA OF OPERATION. THIS OPERATION WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE WITHDRAWAL OF UNIFIL FROM LEBANON AND UNTIL THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION ASSUME CONTROL OF THE UNIFIL AOR. DURING THE STAGES OF THE OPERATION THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE PLANNED FOR:

1. DEPLOYMENT OF AVAILABLE FORCES INTO A NARROW AREA OF SEPARATION SOUTH OF THE LITANI RIVER WITH A PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN THE VICINITY OR ON THE THREE MAJOR LITANI BRIDGE SITES AT KASHMIYA, AKIYA AND Khardala; MAIN TERRAIN FEATURES; AND MAIN VILLAGES/CITIES INCLUDED THEREIN. CONTINGENTS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DEPLOY THEIR FORCES INTO POSSIBLY EXPANDING (IN DEPTH AND WIDTH) ZONES OF AOR.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERIM FORCE HEADQUARTERS AND
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LOGISTICS BASE WITH STAFF IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JERUSALEM.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF TACTICAL FORCE HEADQUARTERS WITH STAFF AT NAQOURA.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF MAIN FORCE HEADQUARTERS AND LOGISTICS BASE AT SUITABLE LOCATION OR OR AROUND CITY OF TYRE.

5. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFIL LIAISON OFFICE IN BEIRUT FOR COORDINATION WITH LEBANESE AUTHORITY (MILITARY AND CIVIL).

6. ESTABLISHMENT OF FORWARD LIAISON OFFICE AT NAQOURA TO WHICH WILL BE ATTACHED ISRAELI AND LEBANESE REPRESENTATIVES.

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF FORCE COMMUNICATIONS NET.

8. ASSISTING LEBANESE AUTHORITIES (MILITARY AND CIVIL) IN THE INSERTION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ITS EFFECTIVE AUTHORITY IN FORCE AOR.

9. SUPERVISING AND CO-ORDINATING WITH IDF THEIR WITHDRAWAL FROM AOR.

?. TASKS:

FOLLOWING TASK ASSIGNMENTS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL SUBORDINATE CONTINGENTS:

1. RECON AND DEPLOY WITHIN ASSIGNED AREA OF OPERATIONS TO INCLUDE PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN MAIN POPULATION CENTRES.

2. CONDUCT 24 HOUR VISUAL OCCUPATION OF SECTOR THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OBSERVATION POSTS AND PATROLS.

3. MOVE TO AND OCCUPY ALL MAJOR CROSSING POINTS IN NORTHERN WESTERN BOUNDARY; ESTABLISH CHECKPOINTS AT THESE CRITICAL AREAS TO ENSURE SUPERVISION OF BORDER CROSSING.

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4. IN COORDINATION WITH LEBANESE AUTHORITIES AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNIFIL INSTRUCTIONS (TO BE PUBLISHED), CONTROL ALL VEHICLES AND PERSONS TRANSITING INTO AND OUT OF THE AREA OF OPERATIONS AND ENSURE THAT NO WEAPONS AND ARMED PERSONS ARE ALLOWED INTO THE BUFFERZONE.

5. ESTABLISH LIAISON ELEMENT WITH FORCE HEADQUARTERS FORWARD.

6. ON ORDER, BE PREPARED TO EXTEND AREA OF OPERATIONS TO THE SOUTH OR REDUCE AREA OF OPERATIONS IN THE NORTH BASED ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND LEBANESE ADMINISTRATION AND MILITARY TAKE OVER.

7. ESTABLISH CONTINUOUS UN PRESENCE IN POPULATED AREAS THROUGH THE USE OF RECONNAISSANCE PATROLS AND SCATTERED UNIT POSITIONING.

8. ENSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS OF CONTINGENTS ARE THOROUGHLY AWARE THAT WEAPONS PROVIDED TO UNIFIL ARE DEFENSIVE IN CHARACTER AND THAT THESE WEAPONS SHALL ONLY BE USED FOR SELF DEFENSE. SELF DEFENSE WOULD INCLUDE RESISTANCE TO

ATTEMPTS BY FORCEFUL MEANS TO PREVENT THE FORCE FROM DISCHARGING ITS DUTIES UNDER THE MANDATE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. (INSTRUCTIONS ON UN USE OF FORCE WILL BE ISSUED LATER).

9. REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THE PEACEFUL CHARACTER OF THE AOR.

C. SPECIFIC CONTINGENT TASKS:

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(A) MOVE TO AND ESTABLISH BATTALION HEADQUARTERS IN OR VICINITY OF TYRE.

(B) IN CO-ORDINATION WITH CAO UNIFIL RECON AND ESTABLISH SITE FOR PROJECTED FORCE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT BATTALION.

(C) IN CO-ORDINATION WITH FORCE HEADQUARTERS STAFF (JERUSALEM AND NAQOURA) RECON AND ESTABLISH SITE FOR FORCE MAIN HEADQUARTERS.

(D) IN CO-ORDINATION WITH FORCE HEADQUARTERS STAFF AND UNIFIL CAO PROVIDE SECURITY AS REQUIRED FOR LOGISTICAL AND HEADQUARTERS ELEMENTS CO-LOCATED IN TYRE.

(E) INITIALLY MAINTAIN A PRESENCE IN THE VICINITY OF THE BRIDGE SITES.

(F) ON ORDER, BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE FORCE COMMANDER UNIFIL READY MOBILE RESERVE FOR IMMEDIATE DEPLOYMENT IN UNIFIL AREA OF OPERATION.

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2. IRANCON

- (A) MOVE TO AND OCCUPY BRIDGE AT AKIYA.
- (B) ENSURE THAT ALL KNOWN AND SUSPECTED FORDING SITES INTO AREA OF OPERATIONS ARE COVERED BY OBSERVATION.
- (C) ON ORDER ASSIST MOVEMENT OF SWEDCON INTO AREA OF OPERATIONS.
- (D) ON ORDER BE PREPARED FOR DETACHMENT FROM UNIFIL AND RETURN TO UNDOF, AND ASSIST ESTABLISHMENT OF REPLACEMENT CONTINGENT.

3. SEDCON

- (A) ON ORDER MOVE TO AND OCCUPY BRIDGE AT KHARDALA.
- (B) ENSURE THAT ALL KNOWN AND SUSPECTED FORDING SITES INTO AREA OF OPERATIONS ARE COVERED BY OBSERVATION.
- (C) ON ORDER ASSIST ARRIVAL OF NORCON INTO AREA OF OPERATIONS AND PREPARE TO MOVE WEST INTO IRANCON AREA OF OPERATIONS.
- (D) ON ORDER BE PREPARED FOR DETACHMENT FROM UNIFIL AND RETURN TO UNEF, AND ASSIST ESTABLISHMENT OF REPACEMENT CONTINGENT.

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4. NORCON

- (A) UPON ARRIVAL RECCE AREA OF OPERATIONS AND PREPARE TO RELIEVE SWEDCON IN PLACE (SEE ANNEX B).
- (B) ESTABLISH LIAISON WITH ELEMENT TO THE WEST.

5. NEPCON

- (A) UPON ARRIVAL RECCE DESIGNATED AREA OF OPERATIONS AND PREPARE TO RELIEVE CONTINGENT PRESENTLY OPERATING IN THE ASSIGNED AREA.
- (B) ESTABLISH LIAISON WITH ELEMENTS TO LEFT AND RIGHT.

6. SENCON

- (A) UPON ARRIVAL RECCE DESIGNATED AREA OF OPERATIONS AND PREPARE TO RELIEVE CONTINGENT PRESENTLY OPERATING IN THE ASSIGNED AREA.
- (B) ESTABLISH LIAISON WITH ELEMENT TO THE LEFT AND RIGHT.

7. ADDITIONAL CONTINGENTS:

- (A) UPON ARRIVAL RECCE DESIGNATED AREA OF OPERATIONS AND PREPARE TO RELIEVE CONTINGENT PRESENTLY OPERATING IN THE ASSIGNED AREAS.

8. FORCE HEADQUARTERS

(A) ESTABLISH FORWARD HEADQUARTERS AT NAQOURA.

(B) ON ORDER BE PREPARED TO ESTABLISH MAIN HEADQUARTERS AT TYRE.

(C) UPON ESTABLISHMENT AT NAQOURA AND UPON RECEPTION OF THIS ORDER, INITIAL PLANNING FOR CONTINUOUS REDEPLOYMENT OF CONTINGENTS AS THEY ARRIVE WILL BE CONDUCTED AT NAQOURA FORWARD FORCE HEADQUARTERS ONCE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS ARE RECEIVED FROM JERUSALEM AND BASED ON FRAGMENTARY ORDERS ISSUED FROM FORCE HEADQUARTERS FORWARD. THIS ORDER WILL BE USED AS THE BASIC REFERENCE FOR FURTHER DEPLOYMENT FRAG ORDERS.

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(D) ON ORDER, FORCE HEADQUARTERS WILL PREPARE TO PHASE INTO OPERATIONS STAFF OFFICERS FROM THE PARTICIPATORY CONTINGENTS.

(E) ON ORDER, FORCE HEADQUARTERS WILL PREPARE TO RECEIVE FROM NORCON AND FRANCECON THE FOLLOWING MISSION SUPPORT ELEMENTS, TO BE CO-LOCATED AT FORCE MAIN HEADQUARTERS IN TYRE:

- (1) ENGINEERS COMPANY
- (2) AVIATION COMPANY
- (3) MEDICAL COMPANY
- (4) SIGNAL COMPANY
- (5) OTHERS TO BE DETERMINED

IV. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

V. COMMAND AND SIGNAL

A. SIGNAL

B. COMMAND:

1. THE FORCE WILL BE UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE UNITED NATIONS VESTED IN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE COMMAND IN THE FIELD WILL BE EXERCISED BY THE FORCE COMMANDER WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

2. UNIFIL HEADQUARTERS WILL ESTABLISH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A DIRECT LIAISON WITH BOTH ISRAELI AND LEBANESE AUTHORITIES.

3. NORMAL MILITARY CHAIN OF COMMAND APPLIES AND WILL BE ESTABLISHED BASED ON ANNEX H TO THIS ORDER.

4. MAIN HEADQUARTERS INITIALLY IN JERUSALEM MOVE TO TYRE ON ORDER.

5. FWD HEADQUARTERS NAQOURA.

E.A. ERSKINE

MAJOR-GENERAL

INTERIM FORCE COMMANDER, UNIFIL

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Message Attributes

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